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HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 4th March, 2025

No.5149—PT1-HUD-PROJ-SCH/0029/2024/HUD.—A State Level **Water Resource Recovery Cells (WRRC)** with following members is hereby constituted under the **Jal Hi Amrit (JHA) initiative** which is a reform programme under AMRUT 2.0 to co-ordinate treated water reuse and bio-solids management, ensure compliance with environmental standards, foster collaboration with industries, research institutions, and think tanks.

1.	Principal Secretary to Government, Housing & Urban Development Department	Chairman
2.	State Mission Director, AMRUT 2.0 Mission, Odisha	Member
3.	Engineer in Chief, PHEO, Bhubaneswar	Member
4.	Managing Director, WATCO, Bhubaneswar	Member Convener
5.	Engineer in Chief, OWSSB, Bhubaneswar	Member
6.	Representative from Water Resources Department	Member
7.	Representative from Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment	Member
8.	Representative from Energy Department	Member
9.	Representative from Industries Department	Member
10.	Regional Manager, Bhubaneswar, State Pollution Control Board/ Representative from State Pollution Control Board	Member
11.	Chief Engineer/ Additional Chief Engineer of respective Division	Member

12.	Experts from academic institutions, think tanks, and the private sector as per requirement	Member
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2. The Committee is co-terminus with the completion of the programme.

By Orders of the Principal Secretary
SIKHA BISWAL
FA-cum- Additional Secretary to Government

Advisory on the Establishment of Water Resource Recovery Cells (WRRC) at the State Level

Issued by: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India
Under: AMRUT 2.0 Reforms — Jal Hi Amrit Initiative

1. Introduction

Mission AMRUT 2.0 envisions creating water-secure cities by focusing on recycling and reusing treated used water. The Jal Hi Amrit (JHA) initiative under AMRUT 2.0 aims to incentivize urban local bodies (ULBs) to improve the quality of treated used water by ensuring efficient operations of Used Water Treatment Plants (UWTPs) and promote recycling and reuse. As part of this initiative, State Governments are advised to establish a dedicated Water Resource Recovery Cell (WRRC) to promote sustainable and circular management of used water and biosolids.

This advisory outline the key requirements and operational guidelines for setting up WRRCs and utilizing incentives provided under the Jal Hi Amrit initiative.

2. Establishment of a Water Resource Recovery Cell (WRRC)

Each State/UT participating in the Jal Hi Amrit initiative must set up a Water Resource Recovery Cell (WRRC) to facilitate the sustainable management of treated used water. The WRRC will serve as a coordination platform, bringing together relevant stakeholders to enhance the reuse of treated water and biosolids management.

2.1 Key Objectives of WRRC:

- Promote the reuse of treated used water for various non-potable applications, including industrial, agricultural, and municipal purposes.
- Facilitate biosolids management for energy production through biogas utilisation (where feasible) and towards sustainable agriculture and landscaping post conformance with quality standard.
- Ensure compliance with environmental standards for treated used water.
- Encourage public-private partnerships (PPPs) and innovative financing models for used water infrastructure and promote circularity.
- Engage with industry, think tanks, experts and academic institutions to drive innovation and knowledge sharing in water resource management.

2.2 Composition of WRRC:

The WRRC may include representatives from:

- Urban Development Department (Chair)
- State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)
- Irrigation/Agriculture Department
- Public Health Engineering Department (PHED)
- Power Department
- Industries Department
- Relevant ULBs and Parastatals
- Experts from academic institutions, think tanks, and the private sector (as co-opted members)
- Any others as appropriate

3. Incentive Utilization by ULBs/Parastatals for UWTPs

The Ministry will provide financial incentives to eligible ULBs/Parastatals to improve the quality of used water treatment. The incentives will be disbursed through the State Nodal Agency (SNA) of the A&OE component of AMRUT 2.0. The funds will be deposited into an escrow account dedicated to UWTP improvement to the concerned ULB/Parastatal and must be utilised for specific activities to improve the efficiency and sustainability of UWTPs.

3.1 Conditions for Release of Incentives:

- Creating an escrow account at the ULB/Parastatal for UWTP improvement to ensure transparent fund utilisation.
- Setting up the WRRC at the state level is a prerequisite for releasing the first 70% incentive.
- Submission of periodic quarterly reports on the performance of the incentivised UWTPs to the WRRC.

3.2 Eligible Activities for Incentive Utilization:

ULBs/Parastatals should utilise the incentives released under the Jal Hi Amrit initiative for the following purposes:

- **Energy efficiency measures, new and renewable Energy for UWTP Operations:**
 - Deployment of energy efficiency measures (with documentary evidence indicating energy efficiency gains), installation of, solar panels, biogas plants, and other renewable energy solutions to reduce operational costs and carbon footprint.
- **Biosolids Management:**
 - Enhancing biosolid treatment processes to produce safe, usable by-products for agriculture and landscaping.
- **Real-Time Data Management Systems:**
 - Implementation of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, Online Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems (OCEMS), and other digital solutions to monitor and improve UWTP performance in real-time.
- **Capacity Building of Staff:**
 - Training programs for operators and field officials to enhance their knowledge and skills in operating and maintaining UWTPs efficiently.
- **Technology Upgradation:**
 - Adopting advanced treatment technologies to improve treated effluent quality and ensure compliance with environmental standards.
- **Capital Expenditures for Reuse Infrastructure:**
 - Developing infrastructure to facilitate reusing treated used water, such as pipelines, storage tanks, and distribution systems.
- **Operating Efficiencies and Improvement of LIWTPs:**

Deployment of Asset Management Monitoring System/Software, conducting regular maintenance and upgrading essential components of UWTPs to ensure efficient operation and proactive maintenance.

4. Roles and Responsibilities of WRRC:

The WRRC will play a pivotal role in ensuring the effective utilisation of incentives and the overall success of the Jal Hi Amit initiative. The key responsibilities of the WRRC include:

- Reviewing and approving proposals from ULBs/Parastatals for incentive utilisation.
- Monitoring the performance of incentivised UWTPs and ensuring compliance with environmental standards.
- Conducting periodic field visits to assess the quality of treated water and biosolids.
- Organizing capacity-building programs for UWTP operators and officials in collaboration with technical partners.
- Promoting awareness and advocacy on reusing treated water and biosolids management.
- Preparing quarterly reports for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

5. Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism:

To ensure transparency and accountability in implementing the Jal Hi Amrit initiative, the WRRC will establish a robust monitoring and reporting mechanism. The key elements of this mechanism include:

- **Performance Monitoring:** Regular assessment of UWTPs to ensure consistent adherence to environmental standards and optimal performance.
- **Data Management:** Maintenance of accurate and up-to-date records of UWTP operations, including water quality test reports, energy consumption, and biosolids management.
- **Reporting:** Submit periodic reports to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, highlighting the progress made under the Jal Hi Amrit initiative.

6. Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing:

The WRRC could collaborate with knowledge partners to organise capacity-building programs for ULB officials and UWTP operators.

7. Conclusion:

Establishing WRRCs at the State level is a critical step in achieving the objectives of the Jal Hi Amrit initiative under AMRUT 2.0. By promoting the sustainable management of treated used water and biosolids, WRRCs will contribute significantly to creating water-secure cities and advancing the circular economy of water. State Governments are advised to take immediate steps to set up WRRCs and ensure their effective functioning to maximise the benefits of the Jal Hi Amrit initiative.